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LA FOLLETTE DENOUNCES USE OF SHERMAN LAW AGAINST THE UNIONS

Says Courts Wrongly Apply the Law to Unions and Fail to Use It Against "Big Interests." Is Suffering With Cold.

Peoria, Ill., Jan. 5.—Robert M. La Follette, the Progressive Republican leader, in a speech before an audience of Spring Valley miners, yesterday defined his position on "The Courts and Labor Combinations."

He denounced in unmeasured terms the miraculous manner in which the courts have discovered that the Sherman antitrust law applies to the labor organizations to which it was never intended to apply, and does not apply to the "Big Business" to which it was intended to apply.

La Follette was so ill he hardly was able to keep his feet, and his throat so rough that every word was an effort. He is suffering from a complication of cold and Charles R. Crane's oyster soup.

While La Follette was Crane's guest in Chicago Wednesday night, he ate some oyster soup, which brought on a slight attack of ptomaine poisoning and debilitating fever.

In the course of his speech, La Follette praised John Mitchell,

vice president of the American Federation of Labor, and idol of the miners. Mitchell lived at Spring Valley for a number of years, and is a personal friend of many of the miners there.



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John Mitchell.

In regard to the manner in which the courts have applied the